

ELECTRICIAN'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 19, 2006

Meeting convened at 9:03 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:09 P.M.

DOPL STAFF

Craig Jackson, *Director*
F. David Stanley, *Associate Director*
Dennis Meservy, *Bureau Manager*
Katie Tris, *Secretary*
Wayne Holman, *Investigations*
Alan Dawes, *Licensing Technician*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brad Stevens, *Chairman*
Frank Rydalch
David Kingery
Harold Weight
Dirk Burton

VISITORS

Sara Baldwin, *Utah Clean Energy*
Jason Berry, *State Energy Program*
George Billings, *Salt Lake Community College*
David Buttars, *Eclipse Electric*
Jared Buttars, *Eclipse Electric*
Andy Eatchel
Steve Fordham, *Utah Valley State College*
Ken Gardner, *Gardner Engineering*
Trina Hansen, *Ogden Weber Applied Technical College*
Calvin Hunt, *Southeastern Applied Technical College*
Paul James, *Brigham Applied Technical College*
Chris Jensen, *Brigham Applied Technical College*
Doug Leon, *Davis Applied Technical College*
Max Lowe, *Dixie Applied Technical College*
Renee McDonough, *IEC of Utah*
Curtis Nielsen, *Ogden Weber Applied Technical College*
Tonya Peterson, *Uintah Basin Applied Technology College*
Will Pierce, *Salt Lake Community College*
Ross E. Sacco, *College of Eastern Utah*
Greg Sanders, *Southwest Applied Technical College*
Dan Satterfield, *All Pro Electric*

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Brad Stevens, chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

MINUTES:

The September 21, 2006 board minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made by Frank Rydalch and seconded by David Kingery to accept the minutes as written. All members voted in favor of the September minutes.

SOLAR LICENSING

Brad Stevens discussed the language for the new electrical solar license classification. Stevens stated the language for this classification is presently being reviewed by Lenore Epstein of the Attorney General's Office. Jason Berry with the State Energy Program indicated he along with those representing electrical solar were willing to meet and review the language for the new license classification. After a discussion involving F. David Stanley, it was agreed the group would meet at the Division on Monday, October 23, 2006. After this review the proposed wording for the classification would then be brought back to the board.

COMPETENCY TESTING WITH APPRENTICESHIP SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Brad Stevens addressed the apprenticeship school representatives about how the results of the competency testing should be reported to the board. Stevens indicated competency testing was a tool that allowed the schools to see how their students and instructors were doing. The competency testing is to be given after each semester. The last review of the competency testing showed some schools were allowing students to take the competency test more than twice. Students should only be allowed two opportunities to pass the test and students that failed were to repeat the semester. Curtis Nielson asked what the passing rate is for the competency test. The passing rate is the same as the state test, 75%.

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Max Lowe wanted to know about correlation and what the passing rate was on the state journeyman exams for those that passed the competency tests. The discussion was competency testing is new and therefore there is insufficient data. Harold Weight stated correlation was what they as a board wanted. The board after reviewing the testing results from both exams would eventually be able to compare the data.

Will Pierce replied multiple choice, when Doug Leon asked if the competency test questions were going to be multiple choice or short answers. Paul James wanted the Division to mail the contractors letters informing them the competency testing requirement is coming from the state. Dennis Meservy stated mailings were expensive. The discussion revolved around, the schools should be the one to tell those enquiring that the Electrical Board was the force behind competency testing.

Dan Satterfield with All Pro Electric stated that as a contractor he is in favor of the competency testing. Stevens stated contractors should get more involved with the apprenticeship program. Curtis Nielson stated he could already see that competency is having a positive impact with his students. Nielson also asked if Thomson Prometric could provide a six month test result comparison, so the schools could get a better picture of how they are doing. Meservy mentioned just to get the one month report has taken substantial time and effort. However, he would contact Thomson about the six month report.

PRACTICAL TEST

Representatives of the schools, in an effort to assist their students, asked questions about the practical examination. Color coding: Students were given the information for the color coding that was used. Frank Rydalch stated the testing applicants were not having problems with the color coding, but the grounding and the bonding. What type of transformers is used? Stevens stated three phase KVA transformers.

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What portions of the test were the students failing? Brad Stevens stated it was the motor controls and transformers. The schematics were there and if followed the student could pass. There are different brands and currently they are using Siemens and GE. Rydalch stated the students need to know forward and reverse and to also read the buttons. Stevens indicated there was also a problem with three and four way switching. They had to know how to trouble shoot a four way switch. Is there enough time to complete the test at the various test stations? For those students who know what they were doing there is more than adequate time to complete the test. Dennis Meservy mentioned there are too many applicants that fail the test and retest without any preparation.

The board expressed they did not want the schools teaching to the test. There were applicants that do not understand the practical test is a pass or fail test and you have to pass all the testing positions in order to pass the exam. If you fail one portion of the test, you do not move on to the next testing station. Dirk Burton stated there is room for error and points are deducted and this is especially true for conduit bending.

Max Lowe stated this was a very beneficial meeting and he would like a copy of the minutes. Doug Leon said this meeting provided him with the information he needed to help his students. Leon said students when they take the practical test are under a time limit for each section of the test and he has students that have frozen up under this pressure. The students while at school practicing for this test need to be put under the same type of pressure.

Curtis Nielson said each school has new instructors and or directors. For this reason he would like to propose the schools hold a forum at a central location at least once a year. The purpose would be to keep everyone up to speed on the tests. Brad Stevens asked why this couldn't be done at their educational team meeting. Nielson stated it would be good to have someone from the board at the educational team meeting.

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JARED BUTTARS

Stevens said in the previous meeting it was decided by vote if an applicant fails any portion of the state test four times the applicant is to meet with the board. It was also recommended the applicant bring with them an employer representative. Jared Buttars was present with his employer, David Buttars of Eclipse Electric. Jared said he had passed the code and theory portions of the test, but had failed the practical portion of the test four times. Two tests were on the computer and the other two were hands-on. The discussion centered on how the board could help Jared Buttars pass the practical exam. Jared said he was nervous when he tested. Also, he did not have the best instructor to help him when he was at school. He stated he now has a good instructor and is of the opinion that with additional schooling he would be able to pass the test. David Buttars said he had been pressing Jared to get his journeyman license and this may also been a factor. Jared may have tested before he was ready. David Buttars said in attending today's board meeting he gained an understanding and agrees with what the board is trying to accomplish. He likes the hands-on test and is of the opinion the hands-on test is a good test. Frank Rydalch made a motion to allow Jared Buttars to receive more education and then when he is ready to retake the practical again. The motion was seconded by Harold Weight with all members voting in favor. It was concluded that Jared Buttars would most likely be testing in the spring.

All business concluded, meeting adjourned.

Board Chairperson Signature

Date

Dennis Meservy, Bureau Manager Signature

Date